

Southwest Region/Cedar City CI/QA
March 18, 2008

Those Attending: Doug Spencer, Destry Maycock, Stephanie Furnival, Debbie Davis, JoAnna Batt, Shandra Powell, Sterling Church, Annie VanYperen-Paiute Tribe

Excused: Amy Bates, Dianne Gitz.

The Chairperson (Debbie) asked Shandra about the Five County Association of Governments Needs Assessment Meeting that is being held today. Beth Cottam spoke with Shandra about having someone from the CIQA team attend this meeting. Shandra will also get Beth a list of the CIQA member emails. Dianne Gitz is attending the meeting today on behalf of the CIQA. Beth stated that this meeting is a pre cursor and then they will have a needs assessment done by email and Internet and would like input from the committee.

Destry introduced Annie VanYperen; she is the director at Paiute Social Services. Annie stated that they are a combination Behavioral Health and Social Services.

There was a motion made by Shandra Powell to approve the February minutes, Doug Spencer made the second and the February minutes were approved.

Sub Committees:

By-Law Committee Shandra, the chairperson stated they wrote up an outline of the by-laws and want the team members to review it and give them feedback. The red lettering shows where input is needed. The By-Laws need to include a purpose, which we have in our action plan. We have a chairperson and someone who takes the minutes. We elect officers and need to decide how long the positions can be held.

Public Relations: Destry, the chairperson stated that his committee met on March 5th. The Immersion Project was discussed. They were hoping to hold it in April as that is Child Abuse Prevention month but have decided to have it on May 2nd at the Heritage Center. Lunch will also be provided to those attending. The purpose of the immersion is to broaden the understanding of child welfare. The immersion is by invitation only. It is mostly for people that we feel would benefit from the experience and be beneficial in their positions. There will be a panel, which will be moderated, by Destry or Duane. Destry stated that it can be quite emotionally moving as far as the stories that caseworkers share. It gives people a different perspective of what case workers are all about. Destry stated that the Immersion Experience would just be for Iron County. He was a part of the immersion in Washington County where they had CPS workers on the panel. They also had a video of a Child & Family Team Meeting that took place up North. Destry stated that they are looking into that and would like a former client to be on the panel to show how DCFS helped them through trying times.

Sterling stated that the Deseret Newspaper dedicates space on a weekly basis addressing Child and Family Service needs. He would like to work with Destry to come up with a success story that could be published.

Doug suggested using Steve Miner as a resource as he has a history with the radio stations and the press. Shandra also stated that CTV12 is always looking for points of interest to air. This could get a lot of exposure through them. She suggested that a mini forum could run on that

channel. Shandra also knows some people that feel that DCFS really did save their lives. They may want to be a part of this.

Caseworker Support: The committee has not met as yet. Sterling asked about the money that is owed to Shandra for the gifts given to the Cedar City Support Staff. Shandra stated that the full amount was \$90. Debbie asked for this to be on the agenda for April to remind us of our commitment.

Substance Abuse Committee: Keith is not present and the committee has not met.

Foster Parent Support: Debbie, Amy and Dianne met on the 4th of March. Debbie talked about the Foster Roster that foster families receive each month. In this roster there are names of businesses called Partners in Parenting, who offer discounts. Debbie noticed that out of the 12 places only three are in Cedar City. They are going to approach businesses about offering discounts in the roster. She already has one commitment from Mama Chus; they are offering a 10% discount for those foster families. Also, on June 9th the foster parents are having a date night. The Family Support Center is offering to take care of all the children while foster mom and dad have a date night out. The committee will be soliciting restaurants in our area and Destry said he would approach one in Beaver.

Annie stated that if the cluster group or anyone ever needs to organize an activity the Tribal gym is available at no charge. It just needs to be scheduled with the building coordinator.

Stephanie had a suggestion for foster parent support. When she lived in Nevada the parks and recreation office had a place to donate money on their sign up sheets for baseball, basketball or other activities. That money donated would go towards children whose parents were not able to afford signing them up for activities. She also suggested having a place where people could drop off old athletic equipment such as cleats or uniforms.

Stephanie has talked with Bob Tate he is excited about the idea but the city is not able to accept items like that in their building due to lack of space.

Destry stated that foster children can usually get special needs funding for things like that. Stephanie then suggested that an article be put in the Foster Roster to educate foster parents as to what is open to them. She has a friend that is a foster parent and did not realize that therapy was available to children when problems arise.

Annie suggested that Stephanie ask a Sorority to work on the collection of old athletic items.

There is an adoption training conference in April and they are dedicating a big chunk of that training to ICWA, Savania Tsosie will be speaking as well as Judge William Thorne. Doug invited Amy to attend that. Arrangements have been made so that her training is all paid for and she will be attending.

Destry then discussed the letter that was written for the water bill, he passed it out for all to read. The hope is that letter helped recruit some new foster parents. Destry will follow up with the Foster Care Foundation to see if they received any calls since the letter was printed.

Action Items:

Since we have missed having 2008 as the year of the foster parent we will now try to move forward for 2009. Dianne Gitz spoke with Bud Bowman. He would like to be a member of the CIQA. Debbie feels like we really need him as he can help us follow through with 2009 being the year of the foster parent. There was discussion about changing the meeting from the third

Tuesday to another day so that Bud could attend. It was decided that Debbie will email all committee members for input on changing the meeting to the second Tuesday.

JoAnna thought that it would be good to come up with some type of consensus of what it means for 2009 to be the year of the foster parents. Destry stated that one purpose of the year of the foster parent is to bring more attention to the services foster parents need. It is also just to recognize those parents. The Utah Foster Care Foundation will also be involved in activities and or events.

Doug asked if anyone knew about the Family Night at Canyon View High School last week. Annie stated that she has gone every year. She stated that it is well organized and they have great activities for kids and have dinner for everyone. Agencies are encouraged to participate and to set up booths. Last year they had 1,500 people attend. They solicit donations to cover the cost of the pizza. It offers great exposure. Annie shared that during the first hour there are no activities it is when people can eat and visit the booths. The Tribe had a booth where they answered questions. Southwest Center gave out coffee mugs filled with prevention information. This is always held in March. There was talk about being involved in that next year.

The Foster Parent Support committee was going to see about getting movie tickets. Debbie checked in to it and there are no tickets. The company told her that there might be tickets available at a later date but they are not coming to us directly.

There was discussion about recruiting someone from SUU. Stephanie has the name and number of the person in charge of the Hispanic's at SUU. She will email Debbie that information.

Destry stated that we still need a community member. Annie suggested that we contact someone on the Foster Care Citizen Review Board. She gave Bernice Rember's name and number Debbie will call her. Annie also suggested Georgia Beth Thompson or Daphne Dalley. Debbie has a note here about Duane having someone from Horizon House join the committee. Doug shared that Daphne Dalley could also fulfill that role as she works at Abbey Road. JoAnna will email Duane and ask him to follow up with someone from Horizon House.

Debbie discussed the action plan and asked about the survey that Mark and Destry were going to create. Destry stated that they decided not to do that at this time.

Destry talked about the drug use in Iron County. He is working on the DEC initiative. That is another thing coming up he has been asked to put together a workshop which is tentatively scheduled for September 13th. It will be put on through Department of Human Services and will bring experts down for a one-day workshop on meth. This was done in Washington County last summer.

Destry stated that we need to review the action plan at every meeting to see where things are at and what needs to be worked on. Destry has a master copy of the action plan and we need to have updated copies of it in front of us at each meeting and if we need to add something it can be penciled in and then Destry can update it with the new information and mark what has been completed.

JoAnna shared that she loves the energy that Debbie has brought to the CIQA but would like the committee to be mindful that each of us have full time jobs. She does not mind outside

assignments but it is hard to focus a lot of attention to them because of other things going on. She would like to take certain things one step at a time and feel like she is a participating member. Destry agreed and stated that certain members do have more capacity to do certain things. Maybe some members can only attend and give input during meetings and that is ok.

Destry talked about the DEC Initiative (Drug Endangered Children). He passed around the protocol that is being used some of it is borrowed from the multi team. They are basically the same players that will be working on the DEC. He asked for any suggestions on the protocol so that it can be taken back and the changes can be made if there are any. This discusses the approach to DEC in Iron County. There is a section that relates to the medical examination of children who are removed from drug homes and how their health is affected. Destry and Stephanie are going to meet with Dr. Burrows to have him review this and get his input as well. Destry also shared that the National Drug Endangered Child Conference will be held in Utah this year. He passed out some flyers on that.

Debbie asked Doug if he has filled the temporary position in the Cedar Office yet. He has not but is interviewing Monday. Shirley is coming back the first of April but someone is still needed to help out.

Action Items:

- Destry will follow up with the Foster Care Foundation to see if they have received any phone calls from prospective foster parents.
- Debbie will email the committee for input on changing the meeting from the third Tuesday to the second Tuesday each month. Debbie also asked each member to let her know of agenda items they might have a week prior to the meeting.
- Debbie will call Bernice Rember about being a committee member.
- JoAnna will email Duane about getting someone from Horizon House to join the committee.
- Please get your money to Shandra for the gifts that were given to the Cedar Office Support Staff.